



# CITY NEWS

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September 20, 2007

## REFERENDUM VOTE SCHEDULED

### COMMUNITY CENTER ROOF PROJECT ON BALLOT

A special election referendum will be conducted on Tuesday, September 25 at the Delaware City Library (Motiva Room) between 12 noon and 8:00 pm. The question on the ballot is whether to approve the issuance of city bonds to finance replacement of the flat roof areas of the Community Center. The roof is leaking badly in both the library and the youth center portions of the building. The Community Center is the old Delaware City Elementary School located at 250 Fifth Street. The entrance to the polling place is at the rear of the building off Fourth Street.

The USDA has approved a loan of \$234,000 and a grant of \$41,000 for the project. The bond issue is required as a condition of the loan, pledging the full faith and credit of the City for repayment of the loan.

Mayor & Council support the project to prevent deterioration of the building and damage to its interior. The most frequently asked question about the referendum is "will this increase my taxes." The answer is no. The funds for debt service on the loan is in this year's approved budget, which had no tax increase. Like all households, the City is experiencing higher costs for electricity, health care, and other essential services, so future tax increases cannot be ruled out. But any such increase would not be a result of this borrowing alone.

All residents, as well as property owners, who are current on their taxes are eligible to vote in referendums. No registration is required to vote in city elections. If you are a new resident, you may want to bring along proof of residency, such as a utility bill or driver's license with your address in town.

## Delaware City Day Committee Kick-Off!

Had a good time at the last Delaware City Day? Want to help make the next Delaware City Day even better? **Come join us on September 24 at 7:00 pm at Town Hall.**

If you have a few hours to give on Delaware City Day 2008, or want to help throughout the year, please join us. This first meeting will help set the direction for next year's Delaware City Day event. If you cannot attend this meeting, but would like to help - let us know. Call Penny Merena at 838-0206.

## Stormwater Protection - Article I

## Fertilizing the Lawn

Nearly everyone appreciates a well cared for lawn. To achieve the healthiest green lawn, many people turn to chemical fertilizers. Unfortunately, lawn fertilizers pose several risks to human health and water quality. Hazardous chemicals in fertilizers include ammonium nitrate, ammonium phosphate, ammonium sulfate, (cont. over)

## *If you wouldn't drink it, don't dump it!*

Source: *Eliminating Household Hazardous Waste*. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. Boise, Idaho. 1999. pg 12-13. This article is part of an on-going series to promote public awareness of the need to protect our water resources.

*Reducing the Need for Fertilizer*  
You can reduce the amount of fertilizer you need by frequently mowing your lawn with a mulching mower to a height of three inches and leaving the clippings on the lawn. Using compost and soil amendments also reduces the need for fertilizer.

*Disposal*  
Empty fertilizer bags that do not contain pesticides and weed killers can be disposed of in the garbage. If the fertilizer contains pesticide, please follow directions under "pesticides" on your product's label to dispose of properly.

*Leftover Fertilizer*  
If you have fertilizer left over, store it in a sealed and labeled plastic bag and keep it away from children, pets, and water. If you do not want to store it, it is best to find someone who can use it.

*Fertilizer Use*  
When using fertilizers, read labels carefully to ensure that you are properly protected and that you use the right amount of fertilizer for your lawn. Don't fertilize before predicted heavy rain and be careful along lawn edges. Fertilizer left on sidewalks and driveways can easily be washed into storm water. It is suggested that slow-release fertilizer is less-hazardous. Look for bags that have the word "WIN" on them, this indicates that the fertilizer contains water insoluble nitrogen.  
pesticides and potassium chloride. Fertilizers can be corrosive to skin, eyes and mucous membranes and can potentially affect water quality.

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